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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO

25X1

COUNTRY USSR (Kuybyshev Oblast)

DATE DISTR.

7 December 1955

SUBJECT Atomic Energy Program, Nickel Shop at Chemical
Plant No. 102 in Chapayevsk

NO OF PAGES

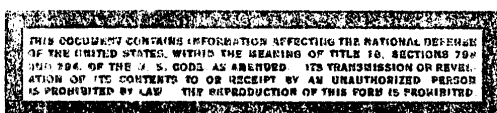
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(LISTED BELOW)

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REPORT NO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Attached is [redacted] forwarded as received.

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[redacted] Comments: Throughout this report, for Kuibyshev read Kuybyshev, 25X1
for Zakhum read Sukhumi, and for elektrostal read elektrostal.

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1. During the period from 15 November 1948, Soviet technicians and laboratory personnel were instructed in the operation of the nickel generator [redacted]
[redacted] 25X1
2. The plant in Chapayevsk had two nickel generators of the type previously described. The inner lining of these generators was ingot steel, 4 mm thick. The Soviets had constructed an additional generator 6,000 mm high and 1,800 mm in diameter, which was equipped with set of stairs and a gallery, but was never used, because the Soviets considered the set impractical. Operational data were, therefore, not obtained. One day, the generator was moved by truck into a storage hall and had to be scrapped, because it was seriously damaged when it was unloaded.
3. No information could be given on two autoclaves seen at the plant. The high pressure pipe line with pressure gauges was also not remembered. It was definitely recalled, however, that no roasting installation was available in the autoclave station. The production of nickel carbonyl in the autoclaves was confirmed. [redacted]
[redacted] nickel carbonyl was produced according to the Langer-Mond method in the autoclaves. Pipe lines extending into the autoclave room were connected with pumps which sucked the nickel carbonyl out of the autoclaves.
4. [redacted] worked on improvements of the thermo element in the nickel generator. The protective glass tube of the thermo element was 1/2 inch thick (not 1 1/2 inches). [redacted] planned to replace the glass which did not permit precise measurements of the internal temperature by another material, but because of the lack of time, no results were obtained. 25X1

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5. The capacity of the nickel generators was the same as that of the generators in Sinop. The actual production was not measured and the results obtained were not observed. It was learned that the output at Chapeyevsk was similar to the output of the nickel generators at Sinop: 5 kg nickel per hour and per generator.
6. During the short period of observation, no large quantities of nickel were produced, because the Soviets were primarily interested in learning how to operate the generators. It was anticipated for the future that the requirements of Object Electrostat for nickel carbonyl would be covered by the production of Chapeyevsk. It was not known from where the nickel powder was received. This was never mentioned in this connection at Sinop or at Chapeyevsk.
7. On account of the size of the plant in Chapeyevsk, it was assumed that it had its own power source. No information was obtained.

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[REDACTED]
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